

IV. REMARKS

The abstract and description have been amended as requested. Thus the specification is no longer objectionable.

New Figs. 1 and 2 labeled as "Prior Art" are enclosed. Thus the drawings are no longer objectionable.

Claims 4 and 13 have been amended. In particular, claim 4 now recites"... said response message..." , which is recited in claim 1, and the spelling error in claim 13 has been corrected. Thus claims 4 and 13 are no longer objectionable.

Forsell discloses the formation of a new uplink temporary block flow (UL TBF), i.e., an uplink radio connection for transferring data blocks, by utilizing the resources of an UL TBF that is ending. This reference also presents the formation of a downlink temporary block flow (DL TBF) by utilizing the resources of a DL TBF that is ending. The present invention discloses the ending of a DL TBF, where more time is provided for the mobile station, so that the mobile station can request the formation of an UL TBF by utilizing a DL TBF that is ending. Otherwise the mobile station would have to request the formation of an UL TBF via a control channel (CCCH), which would increase the load of the channel in question and would increase the set up delay of the UL TBF significantly.

In Forsell, signalling is as follows:

UL TBF setup after UL TBF

Mobile station	Network
(MS)	(NW)

Last RLC data block (cv=0) ->

<- Packet Uplink Ack/Nack (fai=1)

New UL TBF Request ->

<- Uplink Assignment allocating new UL TBF using traffic channels
allocated to previous DL TBF

DL TBF setup after DL TBF

MS

NW

<- Last RLC data block (fbi=1)

Packet Downlink Ack/Nack (fai=1) ->

<- Downlink Assignment allocating new DL TBF using traffic
channels allocated to previous DL TBF

In contradistinction in the present invention, signalling is as
follows:

UL TBF setup after DL TBF

MS

NW

<- Last RLC data block (fbi=1)

Packet Downlink Ack/Nack (fai=1) ->

<- RLC data block, RLC data block is transmitted although
acknowledgement has been received from the MS to allow the MS to
request establishment of UL TBF in Packet Downlink Ack/Nack
message

Packet Downlink Ack/Nack (fai=1 + UL TBF request) ->

<- Uplink Assignment allocating new UL TBF using traffic channels
allocated to DL TBF

Here, it is prior art that a last RLC data block is sent to the mobile station, where the mobile station is polled so that the mobile station can acknowledge the received RLC data blocks and possibly request the formation of an UL TBF. However, it is not prior art that when the mobile station has indicated the receipt of all the DL data blocks the network still sends an extra data block to the mobile station, in which the mobile station is polled. Thus, the mobile station must send an extra Packet Downlink Ack/Nack message to the network, but because some time has already passed from the actual ending of the DL TBF, the mobile station is likely to have received the UL response produced by the DL data, e.g., TCP acknowledgement, and requests the UL TBF formation for this data via the DL TBF.

Forssell and the present invention disclose different issues, and the reference does not at any stage disclose the extra polling of the mobile station in connection with ending the DL TBF, so that the mobile station could request the formation of the UL TBF.


Independent claims 1,13, and 18 recite the inquiry message, a possible response message, and setting information about the need to send packets. Since these features are missing from Forssell, the rejection of claims 1-4 and 9-20 under 35 USC 102 should be withdrawn.

Further, since these features (with their advantages of faster start time and reduced traffic during a temporary block) are not suggested by Forssell, these claims, as well as claims 5-8 are not obvious in view of Forssell.

For all of the foregoing reasons, it is respectfully submitted that all of the claims now present in the application are clearly novel and patentable over the prior art of record, and are in proper form for allowance. Accordingly, favorable reconsideration and allowance is respectfully requested. Should any unresolved issues remain, the Examiner is invited to call Applicants' attorney at the telephone number indicated below.

A check in the amount of \$120.00 is enclosed for a 1 month extension of time. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment for any fees associated with this communication or credit any over payment to Deposit Account No. 16-1350.

Respectfully submitted,


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